

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

Know the new **child seat** REQUIREMENTS



Dear Friend,

As a parent and a legislator, protecting children is one of my top concerns. I am proud to be the sponsor of a new law that helps keep children safer on the road.

Starting July 1, 2008, the new law requires that all children under the age of eight, and shorter than 4 feet 9 inches tall, be securely fastened in a booster seat while riding in a car or truck.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children over the age of one, due mostly to safety belts that are designed for adults. Booster seats raise a child higher so the seat belt fits properly.

The good news is that booster seats are readily available at most stores and often provided free of charge to those in need. The best news is that **using a booster seat immediately increases child safety.**

Please help get the word out: Booster seats save lives!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle A. McManus".

STATE SENATOR

Michelle A.
McManus

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Under the new law, children 4 years of age or older, but less than 8, and who are less than 4 feet 9 inches tall, must be properly secured in a child restraint system.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In 2005, 7,188 Michigan children aged 0-15 were injured, and 84 children were killed, in crashes.
- More than 90 percent of children between 4 and 8 years old who are seriously injured in auto accidents aren't restrained in a booster seat.
- Using a booster seat with a seat belt instead of a seat belt alone reduces a child's risk of injury by nearly 60 percent for children age 4-8.
- Children in states with booster seat laws are 39 percent more likely to be restrained in a booster seat than states without.
- Michigan joins 38 other states with an expanded booster seat law.
- For more information about free and low-cost booster seats, visit www.michigansafekids.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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